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DE RUEHKUK #0044 0551021  
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FM REO KIRKUK  
TO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE 0496  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0533  
INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE  
RUEHKUK/REO KIRKUK 0560

S E C R E T KIRKUK 000044

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BAGHDAD FOR POL, POLMIL, RSO, ORA, NCT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/24/2016

TAGS: [PINS](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [KISL](#) [PINR](#) [IZ](#)

SUBJECT: (S) SAMARRA BOMBINGS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN PLANNED IN ADVANCE

CLASSIFIED BY: Scott Dean, Acting Regional Coordinator, REO  
Kirkuk, DoS.  
REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

[1](#)1. (U) This is a SET Tikrit cable.

[1](#)2. (S) Intelligence reporting about people and tribes in the Samarra area suggests plans to destroy the Golden Mosque were made as early as a year ago. HUMINT reporting in April 2005 points to plans by Samarra AQIZ members to destroy the mosque. Those AQIZ members are still in the Samarra area, and involved in a contest for control of the AQIZ area around Samarra. Motives may have changed over time, but the usual suspects are the same; Haithem Seba Shakur Mahmoud Al-Badri, Hamadi Mnu Abd Al Takhi Al-Nisan, and Ibrahim Al Harbony. The timing may be to support one group over another in an effort to wrest control away through the show of strength. Efforts are underway to determine whether or not these men were involved in the bombings.

ORESTE